

Assignee : Ryukakusan Co. Ltd.
Reissue of Patent : 6,277,395

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Per 37 C.F.R. §1.173(d) matter to be omitted is enclosed in [brackets], matter to be added is underlined. Please amend the specification as follows:

In the Abstract

A swallowing-assistive drink for helping swallowing medicines that contains water and an adhesive paste, forming a viscous liquid or a gelatinoid. If the drink is viscous liquid, the viscosity is 1,000-25,000 cP at 20°C, and if the drink is gelatinous, [jelly] gel strength is 10-100 g/cm² at 20°C.

In the Summary of the Invention

Col. 2, lines 2-3

The swallowing-assistive drink of the present invention has an appropriate [jelly] gel strength or viscosity.

In the Detailed Description

Col. 3, lines 40-46

The swallowing-assistive drink of the present invention is a mixture of water and an adhesive paste as mentioned above, and takes forms of viscous liquid to gelatinoid at room temperature. Specifically, the viscosity at 20°C is preferably 1,000-25,000 cP if it is a viscous liquid, and the [jelly] gel strength at 20°C is preferably 10-100 g/cm² if it is a gelatinoid.

Col. 3, lines 47-52

If the [jelly] gel strength is less than 10 g/cm² or the viscosity is less than 1,000 cP, misswallowing is apt to occur in swallowing medicines. On the other hand, if the [jelly] gel strength exceeds 100 g/cm² or the viscosity exceeds 25,000 cP, swallowing becomes difficult for those who have difficulty in swallowing. Thus both cases are unpreferable.

Col. 5, lines 29-48

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The [jelly] gel strength of this swallowing-assistive drink was measured using a rheometer (Sun Science Company made, trade name: RHEOMETER MODEL COMPAC-100), and the result obtained is shown in FIG. 1.

Herein, the said [jelly] gel strength is calculated as follows.

After charging the swallowing-assistive drink into a sample container placed on an elevating stand, the elevating stand is raised to contact the charged swallowing-assistive drink with a cylindrical plunger placed on the upper side, further the raising is continued at a fixed press rate to break through the plunger, then stopped at a fixed clearance. Next, the elevating stand is descended, while the resistant value (load) is measured, as well as the descending displacement. The [jelly] gel strength is calculated from the load value according to the following equation:

$$[\text{Jelly}] \text{ Gel strength} = \text{Maximum load (g)} / \text{Plunger area (cm}^2\text{)}.$$

Col. 5, lines 54-67

The [jelly] gel strength of the swallowing-assistive drink in this Embodiment was 46.6 g/cm², since the maximum load was 146 g and the plunger area was 3.14 cm² according to FIG. 1.

Embodiment 2

The swallowing-assistive drink of the present invention was obtained by repetition of the procedure similar to Embodiment 1 except for using the following formulation for blending. The [jelly] gel strength was measured similarly to Embodiment 1, and the result was shown in FIG. 2. The [jelly] gel strength of the swallowing-assistive drink in the present Embodiment was 51.9 g/cm².